

EDUCATION.

Cattawissa School.

It is with much pleasure we give publicity to the following communication and address; for while it exhibits the ambition of School-boys in the pursuit of education, it may be an incentive to future application. The present generation will soon follow the summons of "the still small voice;" and to the Youth of the country we must look for materials to fill the vacuum. How important then is the duty involved upon us in preparing them for the various stages of human action; and how pleasing to cheer them on in the only true path to usefulness and fame! Rome rose from barbarism to the highest pinnacle of refinement; and the present degradation of her people furnishes a useful lesson when placed in contrast with her former magnificence. The cause of her downfall is recorded in history. Let us then take counsel from her misfortunes: Let us encourage the education of youth—abolish luxury—promote industry—reward merit—punish the vicious; and our institutions will rest in safety. Let every young American remember that he lives in a country where "all men are free and equal;" and that with virtue and intelligence the poorest boy stands an equal chance with all others to obtain the highest honors in the gift of the people. The dissemination of knowledge will alone promote and support the greatness of our country; and while the School-boy drinks eagerly and deeply at the intellectual fountain, we shall have no cause to fear the continuance of that virtue, liberty, and independence which at present distinguishes America above all other nations of the globe. Follow this path, young friends, and your labors shall be richly rewarded.

CATTAWISSA SCHOOL, Oct. 25, 1837.

JOHN S. INGRAM, Esq.

Sir—In compliance with the request of our fellow Pupils, we herewith send for publication in your paper, a copy of an address delivered before the members of this school, by Joseph H. Wooden, at a public Examination which took place on the 14th inst.

H. W. McREYNOLDS,
FRANKLIN PAXTON,
HEISTER BROBST.

ADDRESS.

I rise, fellow pupils, with much diffidence, to perform the task which you have assigned me; but I trust you will easily excuse me; who as yet stands only on the threshold of science, for wanting that style, and force, and beauty of expression, which pertain peculiarly to those who have penetrated into the interior apartments of her temple. What shall be the theme of my address? What subject, whose contemplation will at once entertain and instruct us? I have selected EDUCATION. What is education in its most extended signification? It embraces all those influences which operate upon us from our earliest infancy to the period of our dissolution. In a more limited view, it imports that mental culture which is obtained from schools. In this sense I shall consider it. We enter our school, at first, with a mind indeed, which distinguishes us from the brute, but which is as yet buried in darkness, unshapen and rude. As we advance, step by step, our mental powers become developed, our mental energies excited. Our ideas, which were innumerable with dross and scattered about in chaotic confusion, begin to stand forth in simple and distinct forms. We not only acquire a knowledge of the branches which are treated of in our text books, but another end is obtained which is perhaps the more important; we acquire the faculty of examining subjects, which are presented or considered, with system, of deciding with judgment. Our mental vision becomes cleared from the mists of prejudice and the films of fanaticism and superstition, and thus by degrees we rise from the low, vaporous, stagnant strata of the atmosphere of mind, into those higher and purer regions, where the sun of reason pours upon us his unclouded and invigorating rays. May I not go farther, and say that our souls, thus buoyant and exalted, are better prepared, when the frail tenure which binds us to earth is severed, to soar into the immediate presence of the Great First Cause, and sink during ceaseless ages at the fountain of unadulterated bliss? If we examine history, and compare savage and barbarous with civilized and cultivated man, we shall find that facts support the view which I have taken. Look at ancient Egypt, the cradle of science. In her precincts from the known world assembled those who could drink of the Pyrean spring. The

arts were cradled there, and sprung up to perfection under the patronage of her Kings and Nobles. The light of science emanating from her splendid domes spread a glory around her and illuminated the earth. Look at modern Egypt: A moral obscurity, equal to that miraculous darkness which once enveloped it, covers the land, and it presents nothing interesting to the eye of the traveller save the crumbling ruins of its ancient magnificence. Look at Greece! An ignorant and superstitious race treads the soil which was once trod by Homer, Socrates, and Demosthenes. Her light, which once shone with unrivalled splendour, has gone out in darkness. Ignorance has "wrapt in her mantle of night" the savage hordes of Africa, Asia and Oceania; and the philosopher and philanthropist alike weep at their consequent wretchedness and degradation; but their brow clears and their eye brightens as they survey those lands where the mists of ignorance have been dissipated by the beams of science, Germany, France, England, and our own happy land. How irresistibly the conviction forces itself upon our minds, that ignorance debilitates and degrades, while knowledge exalts, ennobles and purifies the soul of man. By the kindness of our friends we are placed in circumstances where we can, if we choose, enjoy the advantages of education. On us then it will entirely depend to enlarge our minds, improve our understandings, and enjoy the consequent honor and happiness, or to neglect our present advantages, and not only suffer the inconveniences of ignorance, but the positive misery which arises from a consciousness of having misimproved our privileges. Let us act as wisdom dictates.

The following statement of abuses recently practised in New York, and very judicious remarks on the severity and hardship on the southern and western merchants who trade with that city, we copy from Hudson's Express of the 14th inst.—"During the recent pecuniary difficulties, by which this city, more than others, has been afflicted, the law of arrest, as respects non-resident debtors, has been pretty frequently invoked by creditors against southern and western merchants; and we have heard of several cases of peculiar hardship and cruelty. The writ has been served out, not from any doubt of the ultimate solvency of the debtor, or his integrity and inclination to pay, but to obtain the guaranty of some resident in the city in the shape of bail, to save the difficulty and expense of collection. Several instances have occurred in which gentlemen of the highest respectability and undoubted wealth, have been hurried away from their hotels to the prison, after dark, when they could not readily procure security; and we know of one case where \$4,500 were tendered to the jailer as deposit for the payment of \$700 the next morning by an arrested debtor from Virginia, but ineffectually, as the jailer's duty was merely ministerial, and he had no direction in the matter.

"We do not complain of the law, so much as of the manner in which it is or has been abused recently under the pretext of commercial suffering; and some of the acts of treachery and cool dissimulation practised with a view of ascertaining the intended movements of the traveller, open quite an edifying page in the old volume of human nature. Old accounts, disputed items, charges for interest unadjusted, &c. have been raked up, and although they were not embraced in subsequent transactions and accounts current, have been made the ground work on which process of *capias* has been issued; and the claims have been settled, not from a conviction of their justice, but to procure liberty, as in the disorganization of trade and its principles, southern and western merchants have not found it so easy a matter to obtain bail."

ANOTHER SNAKE STORY.

On Thursday last Mr. Robert Cooke, of this borough, having been taken with a violent vomiting, threw from his stomach a snake six inches in length. The reptile is of a mouse color; its back and belly exactly corresponding in color with that animal—is perfectly formed as to head, scales, &c., and as near as we can judge, belongs to the water species. It may be seen at the store of Jacob Cooke & Co., who have preserved it in spirits, (the individual from whom it came having, at the impulse of the moment, thrown it into the fire, from which it was not rescued in time to save its life.)

Mr. C. cannot in any way account for its lodgment in his stomach, other than that about six weeks ago, while on a gunning excursion in the neighborhood, he took a drink from a spring, since which time he has experienced singular sensations accompanied by indisposition,—but he is not aware of having swallowed anything uncommon at the time.—*Muncy Telegraph.*

The Bank of England has appointed Mr. Cowell an agent to visit this country, on the business of the Governor and Company of that Institution.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

List of acts passed at the first session of the twenty-fifth Congress.

An act to postpone the fourth instalment of deposits with the States.

An act authorizing a further postponement of payment upon duty bonds.

An act for adjusting the remaining claims upon the late deposit banks.

An act to regulate the fees of district attorneys in certain cases.

An act for the relief of D. P. Madison.

A bill to authorize the issuing of treasury notes.

A bill making additional appropriations for the suppression of Indian hostilities for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

A bill making additional appropriations for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

A bill to continue in force certain laws to the close of the next session of congress.

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the payment of horses lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States," approved January 18, 1837.

Resolution directing the postage on letters sent by the express mail to be paid in advance.

Attempt to Fire the General Post Office at Washington.—We take the following from the National Intelligencer of yesterday.

"For several days past a report has been in circulation in this city, of an attempt to set fire to the General Post Office, which is now kept in the large building formerly occupied by Mr. A. Fuller, and known by the name of the American Hotel, situated at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourteenth street. We understand that a bundle of papers which were placed on the mantel-piece of the Postmaster General's room, were found burnt, and the mantel piece charred, when the room was entered early on Sunday morning. Appearances were therefore, much in favor of the suspicion that an incendiary attempt had been made, probably at the time when the watchman was temporarily absent on Saturday night, going his rounds in the other parts of the building. We also understand that an investigation has been instituted into the circumstances by order of the Postmaster General; but of the result we are not yet apprized.

Church for sale.—The Providence Courier says that the Sheriff of Newport has taken on execution, the "Six Principles Baptist Church," in Newport, and advertised the same for sale at auction, on Tuesday, the 24th instant. What sort of "denomination of christians" are those who attend this church? "Six Principles!" The old Israelites had ten; vide Exodus and Deuteronomy. The Richmond Inquirer has seven; five loaves and two fishes. Vide the late John Randolph. We knew of a church in New Hampshire, of octagonal form, built by eight denominations; each claiming a side, and each to have the whole in its turn. Is the Newport Church like this? Or does it mean that the congregation have actually six principles? If so, which part of the Decalogue do they take? We should think they had none, from their allowing their church to be sold by the Sheriff.

The way to win a kiss.—The late Mr. Jarvy Best amused us once with a story told of a brother barrister on the Leicester circuit. As the coach was about starting after breakfast the modest limb of the law approached the landlady, a pretty Quakeress, who was seated behind the bar, and said he could not think of going without giving her a kiss. "Friend," said she, "thou must not do it." "Oh, by heavens, I will!" replied the eager barrister. "Well, friend, as thou hast sworn, they may do it; but thou must not make a practice of it."

Forging Pension Certificates.—Two complaints have been entered before the Hon. Judge Davis, of the U. States District Court, Boston, against Abiathar White, Justice of the Peace, of Dighton, charging him with forging Pension Papers.

Salt Licks in Michigan.—The Salt Springs at Tettabawassa, Michigan, are equal to any in that state. The peninsula of Michigan probably lies on a substratum of rock salt, the deposit of the saline ocean that once rolled over all the west beyond the Alleghanies.

Richard K. Frost, in New York, has been held to bail in the sum of \$5000, on a charge of having caused the death of a Mr. French by quackery. Frost was a young man, only a year or two since an apprentice to the blacksmith business; but at the time of this circumstance was practising physic.

The bills "To authorize an issue of Treasury notes to the amount of ten millions of dollars," and requiring the "postage on all letters sent by the Express mail to be paid in advance," having passed both Houses of Congress, have been approved and signed by the President of the United States, and are now laws of the land.

Dorcas Allen, a slave, was tried and acquitted, at the October term of the U. S. Circuit Court for Alexandria, on a charge of murder of her own child.

OCTOBER.

There is a richness in this mellow month, that all the incipient bloom of spring cannot exceed, nor, in our estimation, parallel. There is a lesson, too, written in its hundred features, that comes more impressively to the heart, than all the prospective attractions of a newer season. This is a lesson that tells us of the unerring decline of Life; that is a promise that points to the bright cycle of years spread out for our acceptance. The first is the injunction of truth; the latter the picture of a sinless, a joyful, and a happy life. We know that existence is certain to fall into the "sear and yellow leaf;" We have reason to believe that when it has blossomed, and bloomed, it will not, like the perennial summer, blossom and bloom again.

For this reason, if for no other should we greet the return of this melancholy month with pensive thoughts. Who that loves Nature, can look upon an American forest now, with careless eye, or with uncaptured soul? Callous, indeed, must be the heart that feels not the instinct of love for God and his works, rising up, like a monitor, to instruct his admiration, or to temper his ardor. The bright green of the summer, and the brighter emerald of the Spring, have merged into the golden tinge and the crimson foliage, of the decay of the year. The whole face of the earth, appears, also, to have felt the changing hand. The bending grain and the exuberance of all the farmer's toil, have been gathered together like unto a sheaf of wheat, and laid up where "moth cannot come." Behold! the declining sun is out! The rays of his brightness, like the last strength of the dying man, seem concentrating in one mighty effort, to shed over hill-top, valley, and plain, a flood of light, stronger and deeper than the far famed blaze that burst around the Apostle Saul while journeying to Damascus. Inanimate Nature! If the pencil of the artist could not, from such a scene as this, draw forth pictures worthy of a Rubens and a Raphael, then is the limner of the Heavens, unfelt, and the bright creations of his mighty hand, forgotten as soon as beheld. But they are not so. For though inimitable in all His works, mortal may pluck from the hand of impartiality, a wreath fit for a conqueror's brow, when even in faint ideal, he seeks to sketch the grandeur of the crimson-clothed tree or the unspeakable beauty of the Autumnal Sunset. Why speak of Italy?—her skies, and the long lingerings of her evenings' magnificence? Why when the broad sapphire of the canopy, tipped with the crimson hue of October, eve after eve, seems brighter far, than aught of human imagination? Why tell us of the fire-edged cereulean, of other climes! Not when the reverential gaze is bent upon the workings of Nature and the ever-changing appearances of her countenance, and all the beautiful, the sad and the magnificent, by turns, are opened out to the eye, there is no time to meditate upon a brighter scene.

Ship of the Line Pennsylvania.—The Army and Naval Chronicle states "that Commodore Chas. Stewart has been appointed to take charge of the U. S. ship of the line Pennsylvania from Philadelphia to Norfolk. It is altogether uncertain when she will be ready to proceed; but it must be before the close of the navigation, or the approach of tempestuous weather. We have not understood whether the Pennsylvania is to be fitted for sea at an early day, although there is little doubt that the popular will would sanction her immediate equipment."—*Pa. Reporter.*

Legislature of Tennessee.—Resolutions have been adopted by the Legislature of Tennessee, directing a searching operation into the state, condition and business of the banks and their branches in that state. We learn also from our exchange papers that "in the Senate, a resolution was introduced to bring on the election of U. S. Senator on the 14th, and bills have been introduced in both Houses to repeal the present system of Internal Improvement, which will be contested with great warmth. A resolution has been proposed for a new State Bank based upon the credit of the commonwealth, and the funds derived from the General Government under the distribution act of June, 1836."—*Id.*

Importation of Grain.—A report of the Secretary of the Treasury to the House of Representatives, gives the following as the amount of the importation of flour and wheat into the United States for the periods specified:

In the year ending 30th September, 1835 —and wheat flour, 29,397 cwt; value \$69,676—of wheat 238,766 bushels; value \$198,647.

Year ending 30th September, 1836, of wheat flour 31,567 cwt; value \$62,341; of wheat 538,890 bushels; value 493,159.

From Oct. 1, 1836 to Jan. 1837, 21,209 cwt. of wheat flour; value \$78,741—3,495,936 bushels of wheat, value \$3,694,809.

James Decker, who was found guilty at the Oyer and Terminer, held in Goshen, Orange Co. last week of enticing from her parents and marrying her against their consent, a girl under fourteen years of age, was sentenced to fifteen days imprisonment in the county jail. The court we understand, declared the marriage valid and it is said, that Decker intends to claim his bride as soon as she is fourteen years of age.

INTERESTING ITEMS.

Great Bank Robber Taken.—The great bank robber, who with a forged check on a Baltimore house drew \$24,000 from the Charleston City Bank, has been taken at Baltimore, by constable Jackson of that city. The reward of \$5000 was a tremendous lure for the vigilance of the Police from Maine to Georgia, and elsewhere. No less than \$19,000, was found on the person of the thief.

Real Estate has fallen in nominal value in most parts of the country. Will not rents be somewhat reduced in consequence?

Mr. Samuel Rowell, in York county, in this State, has raised, on a single vine, six pumpkins bearing the enormous weights of 195, 129, 85, 73, 64, and 39 pounds from a single seed.

The condition of the Tennessee banks are about to undergo the ordeal of a searching operation, in compliance with a resolution of the general assembly of that state.

The number of merchants' bonds which has been laid over at New York, is 8388.

Retaken.—We learn from the Erie Gazette, that John Nevins, who broke jail on the 28th ult, where he was confined for counterfeiting, was re-taken on Monday last in Girard township.

They already begin to boast of their agricultural productions in the Territory of Wisconsin. A Mr. Smith of Burlington, in that Territory, has this year raised a "common red beet" weighing fourteen pounds. We should consider it quite an uncommon "red beet," not easily to be beaten.

C. C. Mason, Esq., Treasurer of the State of Mississippi, died at Jackson on the 28th ult.

Fatal casualty.—Mr. Allen Perry, of Greenfield, Massachusetts, was instantly killed by being caught in the machinery of a cutlery factory, at which he was at work in that place, a few days since.

'Tis said pumpkins vines run so fast in Ohio, that unless they are chained up over night they can't be found next morning.

The Receipts of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad between Baltimore and Washington, for the month of September, exceeded \$36,000.—During the same time the receipts on the main stem of the road were about \$56,000 for the month of September. The receipts for the year ending on the 30th September are estimated at about \$600,000.

James C. Lee, convicted of manslaughter at Madison, Indiana, has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, and a fine of \$500. The idea of a fine for a murder seems like making a jest of the matter.

The New Orleans Commercial Herald of the 8th says,—"The water was so deep yesterday at the Potter's Field, as to render it impossible to bury the dead. Those who were sent from the hospital were returned; the others are piled up ready for interment when the water subsides—the whole number, however, amounted only to sixteen. The burials at the Protestant and Catholic cemeteries were only three; and the whole number of interments on Friday was only eighteen. We have no time to comment."

The coronation of the Queen of England will take place in May. Many foreign princes, it is said, will witness the ceremony. Teas advanced from 40 to 60 per cent. in London, during the month of August.

General Rawlings, and the other Commissioners appointed by the State of Illinois, to dispose of the bonds created by the State for the purpose of internal improvements, have succeeded in New York in selling to the amount of three millions of dollars; a sum equal to their wishes, and on terms very advantageous to the State.

At Cincinnati, on the 11th inst. flour was sold at \$5.31 to \$5.37 at the canal, and from stores \$5.50 to \$5.75.

At Louisville, on the 12th, superfine flour is noted at \$5.50 per barrel.

The Commercial and Rail Road Bank of New Orleans, is advancing \$40 per bale on cotton.

The New Orleans Advertiser says that General Houston will retire from the Presidency of Texas, with the expiration of the present term—and that he will be succeeded by General Mirabeau Lamar.

All the English papers on the Liberal side, Government prints included, are advocating Vote by Ballot.

Miss Grimke, a talented Carolina girl, is lecturing in Massachusetts against slavery. The Worcester Palladium pays her this very pretty compliment:—"The eloquence, pleasing address, and apparent sincerity of that bright-eyed Carolinian, will make more slaves than she will ever emancipate."

A villain has been arrested in Ohio, charged with the crime of bigamy. He has a wife and two children residing in Meigs county, and in July last married a young lady in another part of the State. He soon after deserted her, and when arrested was paying attentions to another young lady.

The Cincinnati Post says that there are now in that city four daily, four tri-weekly, and twelve weekly papers, and four monthly journals. There are fourteen book establishments, and one house (Furman & Smith) have, during the last two years, published 500,000 volumes—chiefly juvenile and school books.

Jacob Gideon, a revolutionary hero, and trumpeter to General Washington, is still alive, and celebrated the anniversary of the battle of Germantown a few days since at Washington.

A public dinner was given to General M. Lamar, at Mobile, on Tuesday last.